

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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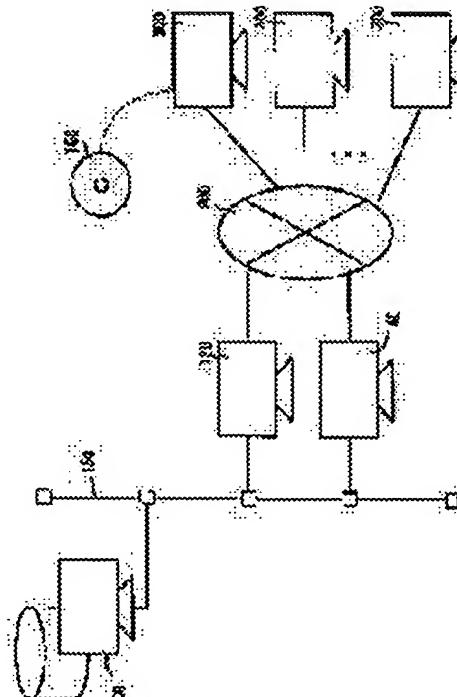
(54) COMMODITY CHARGING METHOD AND RECORDING MEDIUM RECORDING PROGRAM USED FOR THE CHARGING METHOD

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To decide the prices of selling commodities without troubling the commodity purchaser in particular by making the purchaser decide the prices of commodities to be purchased by him based on the result of comparison obtained between the information on the commodity purchaser acquired via a computer system and the information on the commodities which are previously selected based on the prescribed reference.

SOLUTION: A commodity purchaser loads a CD-ROM 160 and takes the necessary procedure for purchasing the contents stored in the CD-ROM 160 via a purchaser terminal 300, i.e., a computer system of the purchaser.

Thus, the information on the hardware and software constructing the terminal 300 of the purchaser are automatically supplied to a price operation terminal 120. Then the selling prices of the contents are decided based on the supplied information (user information) on the hardware and software. As a result, the selling commodity prices are decided based on the products (hardware and software) forming a



computer system of a commodity purchaser and without troubling the purchaser in particular.

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CLAIMS**[Claim(s)]**

[Claim 1] It can perform in the computer system of the goods purchaser who purchases goods. The goods purchaser concerned is provided with the program for collecting at least the information about either on the hardware which constitutes this goods purchaser's computer system, and software. The information acquired as a result of performing the above-mentioned program in a goods purchaser's computer system is received through means of communications. The goods accounting approach of having determined the prices of the goods which compare the received this information with the information about the goods beforehand chosen on predetermined criteria, and this goods purchaser purchases based on the comparison result.

[Claim 2] A record medium with the third field which recorded the installer for installing in this computer system the first field which recorded the software used as goods in the record medium which recorded the program used in the goods accounting approach according to claim 1, the second field which recorded the above-mentioned program, the software used as the above-mentioned goods, and the program concerned for information gathering.

[Claim 3] It is the record medium which has the second program code means for storing in the storage of the computer system concerned by using as a table hardware information acquired with the first program code means for acquiring the hardware information for which the above-mentioned program is managed within the computer system concerned in the record medium which recorded the program used in the goods accounting approach according to claim 1, and the first program code means.

[Claim 4] It is the record medium which has the second program code means for storing in the storage of the computer system concerned by using as a table software information acquired with the first program code means for acquiring the software information for which the above-mentioned program is managed within the computer system concerned in the record medium which recorded the program used in the goods accounting approach according to claim 1, and the first program code means.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]**[0001]**

[Field of the Invention] In case this invention sells goods using a computer system like on-line shopping, it relates to the goods accounting approach for determining the price to the goods concerned, and relates to the goods accounting approach of having determined the prices of the selling goods in detail according to how much a goods vender's goods already being used for a goods purchaser's computer system. Moreover, it is related with the record medium which recorded the program which should be performed in a goods purchaser's computer system in such a goods accounting approach.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] Generally, a goods purchaser has the motive to purchase the goods from the firm which sells goods at a low price. For this reason, in case the selling firm of the goods (software, hardware, books, etc.) which carry out computer system Seki also sells the goods of its company, it is performing discounting the prices of goods in sales strategy (time, important sale of a sales promotion article, arrangement of the old model goods, etc.).

[0003] By the way, it is possible to decide based on the amounts (a number, frame, etc.) of the goods of company where the goods price gave a discount and the purchaser of the goods has already purchased the frame (rate) (street price). That is, to the goods purchaser who has already purchased many goods of his company, a new goods price gives a discount, a frame (rate) is made [many], and the street price is made low. If improvement in the service in respect of the price to a goods purchaser is aimed at by such accounting approach, sales promotion of its company goods can be aimed at to **.

[0004]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] When applying the accounting approach which was mentioned above about the goods about a computer system, as for the selling firm of the goods, the product (software, such as hardware, such as CPU, memory, a disk unit, and CRT, and OS, application) of its company needs to get to know which for whether it is used correctly to a goods purchaser's computer system. In order to acquire such information, I have to have it report of what kind of company the product is already purchased to a goods purchaser. However, it will force a trouble activity upon a goods purchaser that I mistake the list of goods [finishing / purchase / already], and have you report in this way that there is nothing in order to decide the prices of the goods for every purchase of goods to a goods purchaser.

[0005] Then, especially the first technical problem of this invention is offering the goods accounting approach the prices of selling goods being determined, based on the product (hardware, software) which constitutes the goods purchaser's computer system, without troubling a goods purchaser's hand.

Moreover, the second technical problem of this invention is offering the record medium which recorded the program which should be performed in a goods purchaser's computer system in such a goods accounting approach.

[0006]

[Means for Solving the Problem] In order to solve the first technical problem of above-mentioned this

invention, the goods accounting approach concerning this invention It can perform in the computer system of the goods purchaser who purchases goods so that it may be indicated by claim 1. The goods purchaser concerned is provided with the program for collecting at least the information about either on the hardware which constitutes this goods purchaser's computer system, and software. The information acquired as a result of performing the above-mentioned program in a goods purchaser's computer system is received through means of communications. The received this information is compared with the information about the goods beforehand chosen on predetermined criteria, and the prices of the goods which this goods purchaser purchases based on the comparison result were determined.

[0007] By the above goods accounting approaches, the computer system concerned collects the information about either [at least] configuration hardware or software according to the program only by installing in one's computer system the program provided with a goods purchaser. And the prices of the goods with which a goods purchaser is going to purchase the collected information based on the comparison result of the information on preselected goods and receipt information on predetermined criteria when it receives through means of communications from a goods purchaser's computer system are determined.

[0008] The basis of selection of the preselected goods used as the candidate for a comparison with receipt information can be decided to be arbitration according to a sales strategy etc. Moreover, it is also possible to include the goods of a cooperation firm in the goods chosen. The comparison result which compares this above-mentioned receipt information with the information about the goods beforehand chosen on predetermined criteria, and is obtained is related with the goods chosen on the criteria concerned included in the goods (hardware and software at least on the other hand) corresponding to receipt information (information showing which selected goods are contained in the goods corresponding to receipt information etc.). Moreover, the information acquired as the comparison result may be the amounts (the number, the total price, rate to other goods, etc.) of the selected goods concerned which are contained in the goods corresponding to the receipt information concerned.

[0009] in case software, such as application, is sold especially, in the above-mentioned approach, a goods purchaser is provided with the above-mentioned program with the software used as goods, and the record medium recorded on ** from a viewpoint that the goods purchaser concerned can be easily provided with the above-mentioned program at goods (software) and ** -- things can be carried out. As this record medium, both CD-ROM a floppy disk a magneto-optic disk (MO) a mini disc (MD), etc. can be used.

[0010] Furthermore, in the above-mentioned approach, a goods purchaser's computer system can be provided with the above-mentioned program in the above-mentioned means of communications from a viewpoint that a goods purchaser's computer system can be provided with the direct above-mentioned program. Means of communications can include a public line, the Internet, a local network, etc.

[0011] Especially the record medium applied to this invention in order to solve the second technical problem of the above of this invention, when software is used as selling goods The first field which recorded the software used as goods so that it might be indicated by claim 2, It becomes a configuration with the third field which recorded the installer for installing in this computer system the second field which recorded the above-mentioned program, the software used as the above-mentioned goods, and the program concerned for information gathering.

[0012] If such a record medium is set to a goods purchaser's computer system, the computer system concerned will install the software used as goods, and the program concerned from a record medium according to an installer. Then, according to the program concerned, a computer system collects the information about either [at least] configuration hardware or software. Moreover, the installed software (goods) is used in the computer system concerned.

[0013] In order to solve the second technical problem of the above of this invention, moreover, the record medium concerning this invention The first program code means for the program recorded on the record medium to acquire the hardware information managed within the computer system concerned so that it may be indicated by claim 3, It is constituted so that it may have the second program code means for storing in the storage of the computer system concerned by using as a table hardware information

acquired with the first program code means.

[0014] If such a record medium is set to a goods purchaser's computer system, the computer system concerned will collect hardware information with the first program code means. And the computer system concerned creates the table of the hardware information collected with the second program code means, and stores the table in storage.

[0015] In order to solve the second technical problem of the above of this invention, furthermore, the record medium concerning this invention The first program code means for the program recorded on the record medium to acquire the software information managed within the computer system concerned so that it may be indicated by claim 4, It is constituted so that it may have the second program code means for storing in the storage of the computer system concerned by using as a table software information acquired with the first program code means.

[0016] If such a record medium is set to a goods purchaser's computer system, the computer system concerned will collect software information with the first program code means. And the computer system concerned creates the table of the software information collected with the second program code means, and stores the table in storage.

[0017]

[Embodiment of the Invention] Hereafter, the gestalt of operation of this invention is explained based on a drawing. Drawing 1 is the block diagram showing an example of the selling system of goods which has the prices of goods determined according to the goods accounting approach concerning this invention. In drawing 1, the price manipulation terminal 120 and the selling terminal 140 are connected with the database server 100 through LAN150. The database server 100 is equipped with the goods master which accumulated the information about its company goods. This goods master is updated by real time by sale of new goods, the sale termination of goods, etc.

[0018] The price manipulation terminal 120 performs processing for determining the prices of the sold goods. The selling terminal 140 performs accounting to the goods purchaser who purchased sales management processing of goods and its goods. Each goods purchaser performs processing about the goods purchase of acquisition of goods information (catalog information etc.), goods order, etc. using a terminal unit (computer system) (henceforth a purchaser terminal) 300. Each purchaser terminal 300 is connected to the above-mentioned price manipulation terminal 120 and the selling terminal 140 through the networks 200, such as a public line and the Internet.

[0019] Here, the purchaser of goods purchases the record medium 160 with which software was recorded, for example, CD-ROM. In addition, the prices of contents which serve as a body of goods in principle are not included in the price of this CD-ROM160. The installer (field A (3)) for the software stored in this CD-ROM160 to perform processing which installs in the purchaser terminal 300 the list manufacturer software (field A (2)) which is a program for performing processing which collects the information about the hardware and the software which constitute the contents (field A (1)) as goods and the purchaser terminal 300 as shown in drawing 2 R> 2, these contents, and a list manufacturer is stored. In addition, the body is enciphered although the contents as goods are in the condition that parts (explanation of contents introduction, a price, etc.) are decipherable with each purchaser terminal 300. Hereafter, the part which can decode these contents is called legible section.

[0020] If the purchaser who purchased CD-ROM160 loads the CD-ROM driver of his own purchaser terminal 300 (computer system) with CD-ROM160 concerned, an installer will be read automatically. And this purchaser terminal 300 performs processing according to the procedure shown in drawing 3 according to this installer.

[0021] That is, the software A stored in CD-ROM160 is separated and read to list manufacturer software (PI) and contents (the purpose software) (S1), and the list manufacturer software (PI) and contents which were read are stored in the predetermined field of storage, such as a disk unit, (S2). And in case the legible section of contents (the purpose software) is performed, starting preparation of list manufacturer software (PI) is made (S3). According to the contents of the legible section of the contents performed, processing of contents introduction of the contents body concerned, price explanation, etc. is performed by the purchaser terminal 300 concerned. Then, list manufacturer software (PI) is started at the

purchaser terminal 300 concerned (S4).

[0022] Starting of list manufacturer software (PI) performs processing according to the procedure shown in drawing 4, for example. In drawing 4, the instruction which acquires the hardware information which OS and the device driver of the purchaser terminal 300 concerned manage is published (S11). At the purchaser terminal 300, as shown, for example in drawing 5, the information (items, a part number, ID, consecutive number, etc.) about the hardware used at the purchaser terminal 300 is managed by the device manager. Thus, the managed hardware information is acquired and the acquired hardware information is described by the managed table.

[0023] Furthermore, the instruction which acquires the information on the software registered into the purchaser terminal 300 concerned is published. The program started with the instruction has the so-called function of a file manager, and all the directory names in a disk unit as shown in drawing 6, the identifier of contents, size, a date, etc. are acquired according to the program. This acquired software information is described by the managed table in a store.

[0024] As mentioned above, the managed table on which hardware information and software information were described is constituted as shown in drawing 7 R> 7. That is, the managed table concerned consists of the "items" of the hardware which constitutes the purchaser terminal 300 concerned, and software, a "manufacturer", "a model (identifier of contents)", and "a date of install."

[0025] Moreover, if it returns to drawing 4 and such a managed table is created, the information described by the managed table will be kept to the predetermined field of storage, such as a disk unit, as User Information (S13). Next, as mentioned above, the legible section of contents is performed, and if the purchaser who got contents introduction and price explanation of contents performs actuation for the purchase procedure of the contents concerned at the purchaser terminal 300, in the purchaser terminal 300, purchase procedure processing (communications processing with the price manipulation terminal 120 is included) of contents will be performed according to the procedure shown in drawing 8.

[0026] In drawing 8, the program (purchase software) of purchase procedure processing of contents is started in the purchaser terminal 300 based on actuation of a purchaser. Then, User Information (refer to drawing 7) created according to list manufacturer software (PI) as mentioned above is read from storage (S21). Then, the purchaser terminal 300 prepares the communications processing between the price manipulation terminals 120 (S22).

[0027] If the preparation is completed, the purchaser terminal 300 will transmit the information (ID etc.) on the contents (the purpose software) concerned obtained from the legible section of the contents for the purpose of purchase, and User Information read from storage to the price manipulation terminal 120 through a network 200 (S23). Furthermore, the purchaser terminal 300 eliminates from storage User Information (refer to drawing 7) created as mentioned above if needed, after checking that the information and User Information of the contents which transmitted have been correctly received in the price manipulation terminal 120 (S24) (S25).

[0028] The price manipulation terminal 120 which received the information and User Information of contents through the network 200 from the purchaser terminal 300 as mentioned above performs processing according to the procedure shown in drawing 9. In drawing 9, the information and User Information of contents (the purpose software) which were offered from the purchaser terminal 300 are read (S31). Further, the price manipulation terminal 120 communicates with a database server 100, and incorporates the goods master accumulated in the database server 100. And the selling price (nominal-cost, standard price) information on the contents concerned is retrieved from a goods master (S32).

[0029] This price manipulation terminal 120 stores the goods price discount list as shown in drawing 10 R> 0 in a recording device. This goods price discount list has defined the discount rate of each goods (Software A, Software B, device A, etc.) according to whether each goods a and b chosen based on the sales strategy of goods etc. and ... (selection goods) are already purchased. For example, the price discount rate of Software A is defined to 20%, respectively, when the selection goods a and b and ... are not purchased, the selection goods a are already purchased 3% and the selection goods a and b are already purchased 10%.

[0030] In addition, in the above-mentioned example, even if Software A and especially the software B

have not purchased the selected goods yet, the discount rate is set up to 3%, but when Device A has not purchased the selected goods yet, the discount rate is set up to 0% (nominal cost, standard price). The price manipulation terminal 120 distinguishes ... [which selection goods a and b and] are contained in the goods specified by User Information (refer to drawing 7) offered from the purchaser terminal 300, and determines the discount rate corresponding to the distinction result concerned with reference to the above-mentioned goods price list. And the actual selling price (street price) is determined based on the selling price and the discount rate of the contents concerned which were acquired from the goods master as mentioned above (S33). And the selling price (street price) of these determined contents is transmitted to the selling terminal 140 from the price manipulation terminal 120 (S34).

[0031] The selling terminal 140 will transmit the key for compounding the body part of the contents concerned with the selling price information and ** to the purchaser terminal 300 with which the purchase procedure of the contents concerned was performed through a network 200, if the selling price information on contents is received from the price manipulation terminal 120. Then, this selling terminal 140 performs accounting to the purchaser of contents. In this accounting, processing, issue processing of a bill, etc. which pull down the amount of money of the selling price of the contents by which a decision was made [above-mentioned] from the bank account of the purchaser concerned, for example are performed.

[0032] At the purchaser terminal 300 which received the information on a key and the selling price from the selling terminal 140 as mentioned above, if the purchaser of the contents concerned gets to know the selling price, he will perform actuation about processing for the body part of the contents concerned installed in ** using the received key to compound. Consequently, in the purchase terminal 300 concerned, it will be in the condition that the contents concerned may be used.

[0033] According to the selling system of the above goods, the purchaser of goods (software) only performs loading actuation of CD-ROM160, and purchase procedure actuation of the contents stored in CD-ROM160 in his computer system (purchaser terminal 300), and the price manipulation terminal 120 is automatically provided with the information on the hardware which constitutes the purchaser terminal 300 which the purchaser uses, and software. And the selling price of the contents concerned is determined based on the information on the offered hardware and software (User Information).

Therefore, the prices of selling goods can be determined based on the product (hardware, software) which constitutes the goods purchaser's computer system, without troubling especially a goods purchaser's hand.

[0034] Although it responded [... / what kind of selection goods a and b and / are used for the purchaser terminal 300, and] and the selling price of the contents for sale was decided in the above-mentioned example, this invention is not limited to this. For example, based on the selection goods a and b used for the purchaser terminal 300, the number of ..., a price, etc., the selling price of the contents for sale may be made to be decided. In this case, all the goods of the selling firm concerned can also be used as selection goods.

[0035] Furthermore, the price manipulation terminal 120 can also modify the price discount rate (refer to drawing 10) which was equipped with the goods price discount list as shown in drawing 1111 or drawing 12 , and was determined as mentioned above with reference to these goods discount lists. The list shown in drawing 11 has defined the discount prices (rate) of each goods according to a selling area. When there is an important selling area of a certain goods especially, such a list uses and the decision of the selling price is made. Moreover, the list shown in drawing 12 has defined the discount prices (rate) of each goods according to the purchaser who becomes a member. when determining the selling price based on such a list, a quota ***** price (rate) is updated by each member according to the count of use of the selling firm concerned.

[0036] Moreover, although the above-mentioned example explained software (contents) as goods used as the candidate for selling, even if it faces sale of hardware, such as a disk unit, or other goods for sale, the goods accounting approach concerning this invention is applicable. In the above-mentioned example, processing of step S11 shown in drawing 4 corresponds to the first program code means according to claim 5, and the processing of S12 shown in drawing 4 corresponds to the first program code means

according to claim 6. Moreover, step S13 shown in drawing 4 corresponds to claim 5 and the second program code means given in six.

[0037]

[Effect of the Invention] The prices of selling goods can be determined based on the product (hardware, software) which constitutes the goods purchaser's computer system, without troubling especially a goods purchaser's hand, since the information about either [at least] the hardware which constitutes the computer system of the goods purchaser concerned acquired according to the program with which the goods purchaser was provided, or software is offered according to this invention according to claim 1 as explained above.

[0038] Moreover, according to this invention according to claim 2 to 4, the record medium which recorded the program which should be performed in a goods purchaser's computer system in the above-mentioned goods accounting system is offered, and the thing of it can be carried out.

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PRIOR ART

[Description of the Prior Art] Generally, a goods purchaser has the motive to purchase the goods from the firm which sells goods at a low price. For this reason, in case the selling firm of the goods (software, hardware, books, etc.) which carry out computer system Seki also sells the goods of its company, it is performing discounting the prices of goods in sales strategy (time, important sale of a sales promotion article, arrangement of the old model goods, etc.).

[0003] By the way, it is possible to decide based on the amounts (a number, frame, etc.) of the goods of company where the goods price gave a discount and the purchaser of the goods has already purchased the frame (rate) (street price). That is, to the goods purchaser who has already purchased many goods of his company, a new goods price gives a discount, a frame (rate) is made [many], and the street price is made low. If improvement in the service in respect of the price to a goods purchaser is aimed at by such accounting approach, sales promotion of its company goods can be aimed at to **.

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EFFECT OF THE INVENTION

[Effect of the Invention] The prices of selling goods can be determined based on the product (hardware, software) which constitutes the goods purchaser's computer system, without troubling especially a goods purchaser's hand, since the information about either [at least] the hardware which constitutes the computer system of the goods purchaser concerned acquired according to the program with which the goods purchaser was provided, or software is offered according to this invention according to claim 1 as explained above.

[0038] Moreover, according to this invention according to claim 2 to 4, the record medium which recorded the program which should be performed in a goods purchaser's computer system in the above-mentioned goods accounting system is offered, and the thing of it can be carried out.

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TECHNICAL PROBLEM

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] When applying the accounting approach which was mentioned above about the goods about a computer system, as for the selling firm of the goods, the product (software, such as hardware, such as CPU, memory, a disk unit, and CRT, and OS, application) of its company needs to get to know which for whether it is used correctly to a goods purchaser's computer system. In order to acquire such information, I have to have it report of what kind of company the product is already purchased to a goods purchaser. However, it will force a trouble activity upon a goods purchaser that I mistake the list of goods [finishing / purchase / already], and have you report in this way that there is nothing in order to decide the prices of the goods for every purchase of goods to a goods purchaser.

[0005] Then, especially the first technical problem of this invention is offering the goods accounting approach the prices of selling goods being determined, based on the product (hardware, software) which constitutes the goods purchaser's computer system, without troubling a goods purchaser's hand. Moreover, the second technical problem of this invention is offering the record medium which recorded the program which should be performed in a goods purchaser's computer system in such a goods accounting approach.

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MEANS

[Means for Solving the Problem] In order to solve the first technical problem of above-mentioned this invention, the goods accounting approach concerning this invention It can perform in the computer system of the goods purchaser who purchases goods so that it may be indicated by claim 1. The goods purchaser concerned is provided with the program for collecting at least the information about either on the hardware which constitutes this goods purchaser's computer system, and software. The information acquired as a result of performing the above-mentioned program in a goods purchaser's computer system is received through means of communications. The received this information is compared with the information about the goods beforehand chosen on predetermined criteria, and the prices of the goods which this goods purchaser purchases based on the comparison result were determined.

[0007] By the above goods accounting approaches, the computer system concerned collects the information about either [at least] configuration hardware or software according to the program only by installing in one's computer system the program provided with a goods purchaser. And the prices of the goods with which a goods purchaser is going to purchase the collected information based on the comparison result of the information on preselected goods and receipt information on predetermined criteria when it receives through means of communications from a goods purchaser's computer system are determined.

[0008] The basis of selection of the preselected goods used as the candidate for a comparison with receipt information can be decided to be arbitration according to a sales strategy etc. Moreover, it is also possible to include the goods of a cooperation firm in the goods chosen. The comparison result which compares this above-mentioned receipt information with the information about the goods beforehand chosen on predetermined criteria, and is obtained is related with the goods chosen on the criteria concerned included in the goods (hardware and software at least on the other hand) corresponding to receipt information (information showing which selected goods are contained in the goods corresponding to receipt information etc.). Moreover, the information acquired as the comparison result may be the amounts (the number, the total price, rate to other goods, etc.) of the selected goods concerned which are contained in the goods corresponding to the receipt information concerned.

[0009] in case software, such as application, is sold especially, in the above-mentioned approach, a goods purchaser is provided with the above-mentioned program with the software used as goods, and the record medium recorded on ** from a viewpoint that the goods purchaser concerned can be easily provided with the above-mentioned program at goods (software) and ** -- things can be carried out. As this record medium, both CD-ROM a floppy disk a magneto-optic disk (MO) a mini disc (MD), etc. can be used.

[0010] Furthermore, in the above-mentioned approach, a goods purchaser's computer system can be provided with the above-mentioned program in the above-mentioned means of communications from a viewpoint that a goods purchaser's computer system can be provided with the direct above-mentioned program. Means of communications can include a public line, the Internet, a local network, etc.

[0011] Especially the record medium applied to this invention in order to solve the second technical problem of the above of this invention, when software is used as selling goods The first field which

recorded the software used as goods so that it might be indicated by claim 2, It becomes a configuration with the third field which recorded the installer for installing in this computer system the second field which recorded the above-mentioned program, the software used as the above-mentioned goods, and the program concerned for information gathering.

[0012] If such a record medium is set to a goods purchaser's computer system, the computer system concerned will install the software used as goods, and the program concerned from a record medium according to an installer. Then, according to the program concerned, a computer system collects the information about either [at least] configuration hardware or software. Moreover, the installed software (goods) is used in the computer system concerned.

[0013] In order to solve the second technical problem of the above of this invention, moreover, the record medium concerning this invention The first program code means for the program recorded on the record medium to acquire the hardware information managed within the computer system concerned so that it may be indicated by claim 3, It is constituted so that it may have the second program code means for storing in the storage of the computer system concerned by using as a table hardware information acquired with the first program code means.

[0014] If such a record medium is set to a goods purchaser's computer system, the computer system concerned will collect hardware information with the first program code means. And the computer system concerned creates the table of the hardware information collected with the second program code means, and stores the table in storage.

[0015] In order to solve the second technical problem of the above of this invention, furthermore, the record medium concerning this invention The first program code means for the program recorded on the record medium to acquire the software information managed within the computer system concerned so that it may be indicated by claim 4, It is constituted so that it may have the second program code means for storing in the storage of the computer system concerned by using as a table software information acquired with the first program code means.

[0016] If such a record medium is set to a goods purchaser's computer system, the computer system concerned will collect software information with the first program code means. And the computer system concerned creates the table of the software information collected with the second program code means, and stores the table in storage.

[0017]

[Embodiment of the Invention] Hereafter, the gestalt of operation of this invention is explained based on a drawing. Drawing 1 is the block diagram showing an example of the selling system of goods which has the prices of goods determined according to the goods accounting approach concerning this invention. In drawing 1, the price manipulation terminal 120 and the selling terminal 140 are connected with the database server 100 through LAN150. The database server 100 is equipped with the goods master which accumulated the information about its company goods. This goods master is updated by real time by sale of new goods, the sale termination of goods, etc.

[0018] The price manipulation terminal 120 performs processing for determining the prices of the sold goods. The selling terminal 140 performs accounting to the goods purchaser who purchased sales management processing of goods and its goods. Each goods purchaser performs processing about the goods purchase of acquisition of goods information (catalog information etc.), goods order, etc. using a terminal unit (computer system) (henceforth a purchaser terminal) 300. Each purchaser terminal 300 is connected to the above-mentioned price manipulation terminal 120 and the selling terminal 140 through the networks 200, such as a public line and the Internet.

[0019] Here, the purchaser of goods purchases the record medium 160 with which software was recorded, for example, CD-ROM. In addition, the prices of contents which serve as a body of goods in principle are not included in the price of this CD-ROM160. The installer (field A (3)) for the software stored in this CD-ROM160 to perform processing which installs in the purchaser terminal 300 the list manufacturer software (field A (2)) which is a program for performing processing which collects the information about the hardware and the software which constitute the contents (field A (1)) as goods and the purchaser terminal 300 as shown in drawing 2 R> 2, these contents, and a list manufacturer is stored.

In addition, the body is enciphered although the contents as goods are in the condition that parts (explanation of contents introduction, a price, etc.) are decipherable with each purchaser terminal 300. Hereafter, the part which can decode these contents is called legible section.

[0020] If the purchaser who purchased CD-ROM160 loads the CD-ROM driver of his own purchaser terminal 300 (computer system) with CD-ROM160 concerned, an installer will be read automatically. And this purchaser terminal 300 performs processing according to the procedure shown in drawing 3 according to this installer.

[0021] That is, the software A stored in CD-ROM160 is separated and read to list manufacturer software (PI) and contents (the purpose software) (S1), and the list manufacturer software (PI) and contents which were read are stored in the predetermined field of storage, such as a disk unit, (S2). And in case the legible section of contents (the purpose software) is performed, starting preparation of list manufacturer software (PI) is made (S3). According to the contents of the legible section of the contents performed, processing of contents introduction of the contents body concerned, price explanation, etc. is performed by the purchaser terminal 300 concerned. Then, list manufacturer software (PI) is started at the purchaser terminal 300 concerned (S4).

[0022] Starting of list manufacturer software (PI) performs processing according to the procedure shown in drawing 4, for example. In drawing 4, the instruction which acquires the hardware information which OS and the device driver of the purchaser terminal 300 concerned manage is published (S11). At the purchaser terminal 300, as shown, for example in drawing 5, the information (items, a part number, ID, consecutive number, etc.) about the hardware used at the purchaser terminal 300 is managed by the device manager. Thus, the managed hardware information is acquired and the acquired hardware information is described by the managed table.

[0023] Furthermore, the instruction which acquires the information on the software registered into the purchaser terminal 300 concerned is published. The program started with the instruction has the so-called function of a file manager, and all the directory names in a disk unit as shown in drawing 6, the identifier of contents, size, a date, etc. are acquired according to the program. This acquired software information is described by the managed table in a store.

[0024] As mentioned above, the managed table on which hardware information and software information were described is constituted as shown in drawing 7 R> 7. That is, the managed table concerned consists of the "items" of the hardware which constitutes the purchaser terminal 300 concerned, and software, a "manufacturer", "a model (identifier of contents)", and "a date of install."

[0025] Moreover, if it returns to drawing 4 and such a managed table is created, the information described by the managed table will be kept to the predetermined field of storage, such as a disk unit, as User Information (S13). Next, as mentioned above, the legible section of contents is performed, and if the purchaser who got contents introduction and price explanation of contents performs actuation for the purchase procedure of the contents concerned at the purchaser terminal 300, in the purchaser terminal 300, purchase procedure processing (communications processing with the price manipulation terminal 120 is included) of contents will be performed according to the procedure shown in drawing 8.

[0026] In drawing 8, the program (purchase software) of purchase procedure processing of contents is started in the purchaser terminal 300 based on actuation of a purchaser. Then, User Information (refer to drawing 7) created according to list manufacturer software (PI) as mentioned above is read from storage (S21). Then, the purchaser terminal 300 prepares the communications processing between the price manipulation terminals 120 (S22).

[0027] If the preparation is completed, the purchaser terminal 300 will transmit the information (ID etc.) on the contents (the purpose software) concerned obtained from the legible section of the contents for the purpose of purchase, and User Information read from storage to the price manipulation terminal 120 through a network 200 (S23). Furthermore, the purchaser terminal 300 eliminates from storage User Information (refer to drawing 7) created as mentioned above if needed, after checking that the information and User Information of the contents which transmitted have been correctly received in the price manipulation terminal 120 (S24) (S25).

[0028] The price manipulation terminal 120 which received the information and User Information of

contents through the network 200 from the purchaser terminal 300 as mentioned above performs processing according to the procedure shown in drawing 9. In drawing 9, the information and User Information of contents (the purpose software) which were offered from the purchaser terminal 300 are read (S31). Further, the price manipulation terminal 120 communicates with a database server 100, and incorporates the goods master accumulated in the database server 100. And the selling price (nominal-cost, standard price) information on the contents concerned is retrieved from a goods master (S32).

[0029] This price manipulation terminal 120 stores the goods price discount list as shown in drawing 10 R> 0 in a recording device. This goods price discount list has defined the discount rate of each goods (Software A, Software B, device A, etc.) according to whether each goods a and b chosen based on the sales strategy of goods etc. and ... (selection goods) are already purchased. For example, the price discount rate of Software A is defined to 20%, respectively, when the selection goods a and b and ... are not purchased, the selection goods a are already purchased 3% and the selection goods a and b are already purchased 10%.

[0030] In addition, in the above-mentioned example, even if Software A and especially the software B have not purchased the selected goods yet, the discount rate is set up to 3%, but when Device A has not purchased the selected goods yet, the discount rate is set up to 0% (nominal cost, standard price). The price manipulation terminal 120 distinguishes ... [which selection goods a and b and] are contained in the goods specified by User Information (refer to drawing 7) offered from the purchaser terminal 300, and determines the discount rate corresponding to the distinction result concerned with reference to the above-mentioned goods price list. And the actual selling price (street price) is determined based on the selling price and the discount rate of the contents concerned which were acquired from the goods master as mentioned above (S33). And the selling price (street price) of these determined contents is transmitted to the selling terminal 140 from the price manipulation terminal 120 (S34).

[0031] The selling terminal 140 will transmit the key for compounding the body part of the contents concerned with the selling price information and ** to the purchaser terminal 300 with which the purchase procedure of the contents concerned was performed through a network 200, if the selling price information on contents is received from the price manipulation terminal 120. Then, this selling terminal 140 performs accounting to the purchaser of contents. In this accounting, processing, issue processing of a bill, etc. which pull down the amount of money of the selling price of the contents by which a decision was made [above-mentioned] from the bank account of the purchaser concerned, for example are performed.

[0032] At the purchaser terminal 300 which received the information on a key and the selling price from the selling terminal 140 as mentioned above, if the purchaser of the contents concerned gets to know the selling price, he will perform actuation about processing for the body part of the contents concerned installed in ** using the received key to compound. Consequently, in the purchase terminal 300 concerned, it will be in the condition that the contents concerned may be used.

[0033] According to the selling system of the above goods, the purchaser of goods (software) only performs loading actuation of CD-ROM160, and purchase procedure actuation of the contents stored in CD-ROM160 in his computer system (purchaser terminal 300), and the price manipulation terminal 120 is automatically provided with the information on the hardware which constitutes the purchaser terminal 300 which the purchaser uses, and software. And the selling price of the contents concerned is determined based on the information on the offered hardware and software (User Information). Therefore, the prices of selling goods can be determined based on the product (hardware, software) which constitutes the goods purchaser's computer system, without troubling especially a goods purchaser's hand.

[0034] Although it responded [... / what kind of selection goods a and b and / are used for the purchaser terminal 300, and] and the selling price of the contents for sale was decided in the above-mentioned example, this invention is not limited to this. For example, based on the selection goods a and b used for the purchaser terminal 300, the number of ..., a price, etc., the selling price of the contents for sale may be made to be decided. In this case, all the goods of the selling firm concerned can also be used as selection goods.

[0035] Furthermore, the price manipulation terminal 120 can also modify the price discount rate (refer to drawing 10) which was equipped with the goods price discount list as shown in drawing 1111 or drawing 12 , and was determined as mentioned above with reference to these goods discount lists. The list shown in drawing 11 has defined the discount prices (rate) of each goods according to a selling area. When there is an important selling area of a certain goods especially, such a list uses and the decision of the selling price is made. Moreover, the list shown in drawing 12 has defined the discount prices (rate) of each goods according to the purchaser who becomes a member. when determining the selling price based on such a list, a quota ***** price (rate) is updated by each member according to the count of use of the selling firm concerned.

[0036] Moreover, although the above-mentioned example explained software (contents) as goods used as the candidate for selling, even if it faces sale of hardware, such as a disk unit, or other goods for sale, the goods accounting approach concerning this invention is applicable. In the above-mentioned example, processing of step S11 shown in drawing 4 corresponds to the first program code means according to claim 5, and the processing of S12 shown in drawing 4 corresponds to the first program code means according to claim 6. Moreover, step S13 shown in drawing 4 corresponds to claim 5 and the second program code means given in six.

[Translation done.]

*** NOTICES ***

JPO and NCIPPI are not responsible for any damages caused by the use of this translation.

1. This document has been translated by computer. So the translation may not reflect the original precisely.
2. **** shows the word which can not be translated.
3. In the drawings, any words are not translated.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the block diagram showing an example of the selling system of the goods with which the goods accounting approach concerning this invention is applied.

[Drawing 2] It is drawing showing the example of the contents of record of CD-ROM with which the purchaser terminal in the selling system shown in drawing 1 is provided.

[Drawing 3] It is the flow chart which shows the procedure of the installer stored in CD-ROM.

[Drawing 4] It is the flow chart which shows the procedure of the list manufacturer software stored in CD-ROM.

[Drawing 5] It is drawing showing the hardware information managed at each purchaser terminal.

[Drawing 6] It is drawing showing the software information managed at each purchaser terminal.

[Drawing 7] It is drawing showing the list of the information on the hardware collected according to list manufacturer software in the purchaser terminal, and software.

[Drawing 8] In a purchaser terminal, it is the flow chart which shows the procedure of the processing performed in case the purchase procedure of contents is performed.

[Drawing 9] It is the flow chart which shows the procedure of the selling price decision processing performed in a price manipulation terminal.

[Drawing 10] It is drawing showing the goods price discount list (the 1) referred to in a price manipulation terminal.

[Drawing 11] It is drawing showing the goods price discount list (the 2) referred to in a price manipulation terminal.

[Drawing 12] It is drawing showing the goods price discount list (the 3) referred to in a price manipulation terminal.

[Description of Notations]

100 Database Server

120 Price Manipulation Terminal

140 Selling Terminal

150 LAN

160 CD-ROM

200 Network

300 Purchaser Terminal

[Translation done.]

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DRAWINGS

[Drawing 1]

本発明に係る商品課金方法が適用される商品の販売システムの一例を示すブロック図

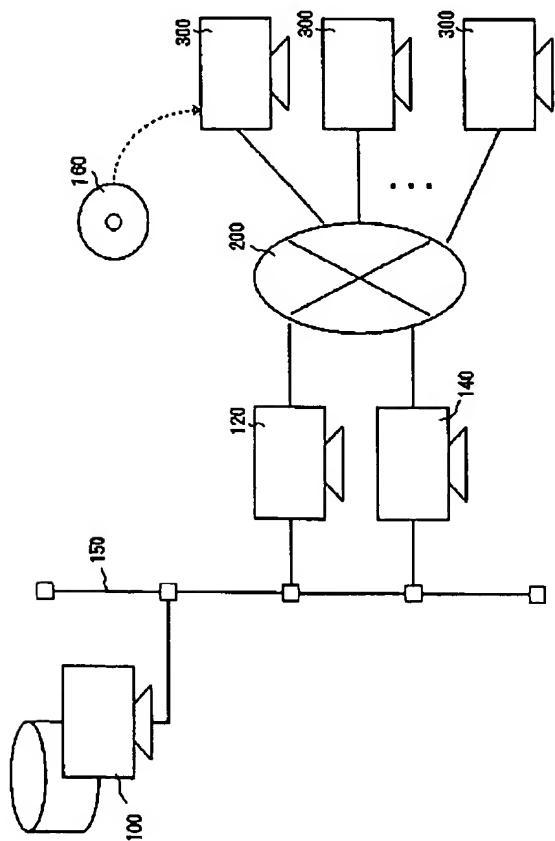
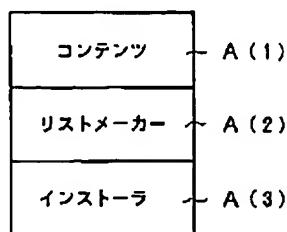
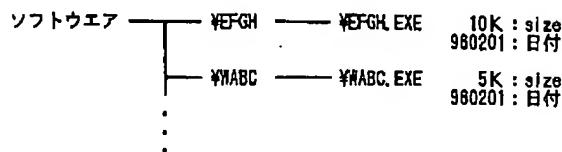
**[Drawing 2]**

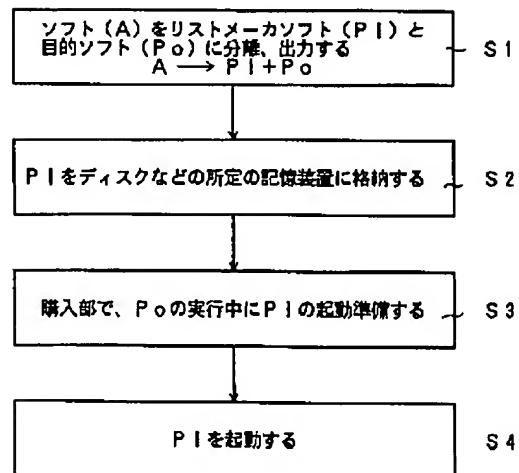
図1に示す販売システムにおける購入者端末に提供される
CD-ROMの記録内容の例を示す図



[Drawing 6]
各購入者端末で管理されるソフトウェア情報を示す図

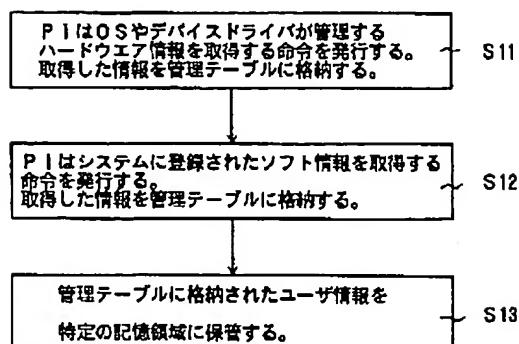


[Drawing 3]
CD-ROMに格納されたインストーラの
処理手順を示すフローチャート

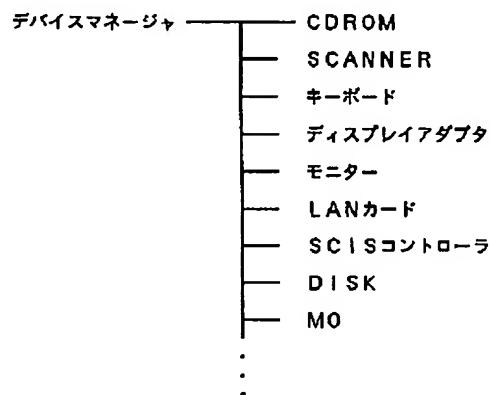


[Drawing 4]

CD-ROMに格納されたリストメーカソフトの
処理手順を示すフローチャート



[Drawing 5]
各購入者端末で管理されるハードウェア情報を示す図

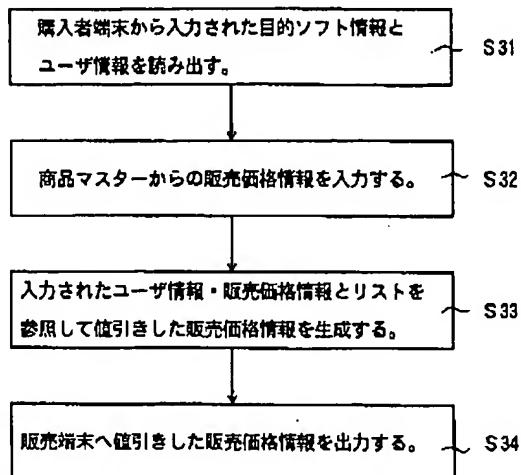


[Drawing 7]
購入者端末においてリストメーカソフトに従って収集された
ハードウェア及びソフトウェアの情報のリストを示す図

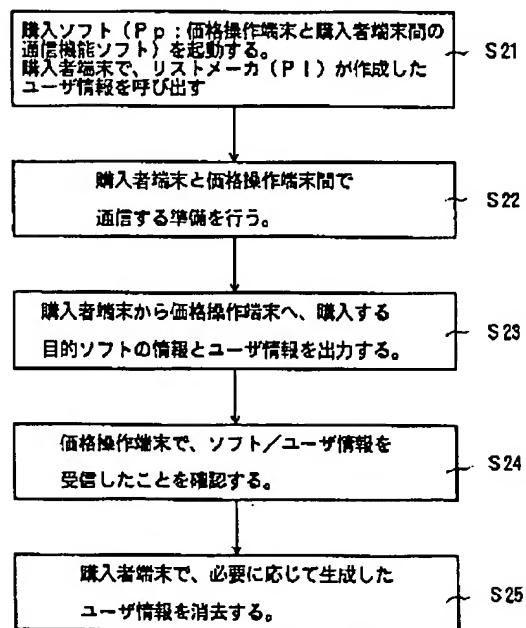
項目	品目	メーカー	機種	インストール日付
ハード	DISK	A社	F211	
ハード	パソコン	A社	V590	
ソフト	ワープロ	A社	a b c	1995.07.10
ソフト	OS	B社	w x x	1995.07.10

[Drawing 9]

価格操作端末において実行される販売価格決定処理の手順を示すフローチャート



[Drawing 8]
購入者端末において、コンテンツの購入手続を行なう際に実行される処理の手順を示すフローチャート



[Drawing 10]

価格操作端末において参照される
商品価格割引リスト（その1）を示す図

		購入者の商品購入項目			
商品販売項目	商品未購入	商品a購入	商品a, b購入	
	ソフトA	3%	10%	20%
	ソフトB	3%	10%	20%
	デバイスA	0%	5%	10%

[Drawing 11]
価格操作端末において参照される
商品価格割引リスト（その2）を示す図

		値引き価格（率）	
	販売地区1	販売地区2
	ソフトA	¥100	¥200
	ソフトB	¥ 20	¥ 30
	デバイスA	¥ 50	¥ 50
	:	:

[Drawing 12]
価格操作端末において参照される
商品価格割引リスト（その3）を示す図

		値引き価格（率）	
会員	利用回数 ～10回	利用回数 ～20回
	購入者A	¥100	¥200
	購入者B	¥ 90	¥200
	:	:

[Translation done.]